

A "WEST POINT" OF OUR OWN.

Mr. J. C. Cunningham Suggests a Feasible Place for Utilizing the Military Genius of Lieut. Henry O. Flipper—How to Break Down the Excuse of Negro Inexperience When Army Commissions are Available.

Editor The Colored American:—So much has been said about the re-instatement of Lieutenant Flipper until his name has become a household word with all race loving Afro Americans. But why should the leading men of our race continue to remain on their knees, begging President McKinley and Congress to re-instate Lieutenant Flipper when it seem to be a part of their "plain duty" to ignore the wishes of all Negroes?

It was the color of Lieutenant Flipper's skin that played the greater part in getting him out and the color of his skin only is going to keep him out. Being out of the army Lieut. Flipper is in a position to do the race much good. Would not be a good move if the leaders of the race would get together and form some plan to use Lieutenant Flipper? He knows much that the young men of the colored race should know; and he should be employed to teach them. Why not add to one of our colleges—say Livingstone or Wilberforce—a military school to train our young men in the science of war?

The doors of West Point are closed against the young men of our race, and the thing for the Negro to do is to start a West Point of his own and put Lieutenant Flipper in charge of it. Lieutenant Flipper is a graduate, I am informed, of West Point, and is fully capable of managing a school of this kind. During the war with Spain a number of colored men applied for positions as colonels, captains, lieutenants, etc., but the Administration had the proud excuse of turning them down on the ground that they hadn't the proper training to lead men against the enemy. That was all true enough, but how can the colored men, who are just as true to "Old Glory" as the white men, ever be capable of leading troops against the enemy when the Government, through prejudice, has closed the doors of its military schools against them? Not only should the Negro feel proud of starting a West Point for the Negro, but such a step should meet the approval of every true American and have the liberal support of the general government. We love to join with the white man in singing:

"My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty," etc.

And to show that we mean no fallacy in singing that sweet old song, we want to help defend the stars and stripes. We defended her even when we, ourselves, were bound in fetters and chains. Now let us start a military school so that while the West Point schools at New York and Annapolis, Md., are sending out their Goliaths of war, the Afro-American West Point will be able to send out her little Davids to meet them. See? Thousands would take advantage of such a school. Start the ball, editors of the colored journals and don't let it stop until Lieutenant Flipper will be so busy training the colored youth that he will not have time to serve Uncle Sam, even should he be sent for in a hurry. JOSEPH C. CUNNINGHAM.
Washington, D. C.

Mr. J. W. Cusberd, of New York city, a former resident of Washington is in the city visiting relatives and friends.

Miss Vivian Thompson Bids Farewell to Little Friends.

Miss Vivian Lucile Thompson, of 333 Spruce street, Le Droit Park, gave a "farewell party" to a housefull of her little companions and playmates last Monday, between the hours of 5 and 8 p. m., under the supervision of her father and grandmother, Mr. R. W. Thompson and Mrs. Eliza Gibbs. The time was most enjoyably spent in lively games, marching, dancing, cake-walking, the music being furnished by a graphophone. Dainty refreshments were served under the direction of Mrs. Cora Ridley. The first prize in the cake-walking contest was won by Miss Vivian Thompson and Master James Kinloch. The second was carried off by Miss Vivian Williams and Master Austin Toomey, amid much laughter and applause. The young folks present besides the little hostess were Misses Phyllis Church Terrell, Vivian Williams, Grace Lyles, Viola Menard, Baby Menard, Claudine Brandon, Essie Champ, Mary Brent, Magenta Lyles, Olivia Lyles, Baby Robinson, Masters Willis Menard, James Kinloch, Austin Toomey, Willie Belcher, Richard Toomey, Willie Davis, Roscoe Robinson, Harry Toomey, and others. Among the adults who "dropped in" to enjoy the festivities with the children and to assist them with their games were Prof. and Mrs. R. H. Terrell, Lieut. and Mrs. R. E. Toomey, Mrs. J. Willis Menard, Misses Mary Menard, Ida Washington and Norma Ridley, Mrs. Martell, mother of Mrs. Terrell, Miss Lula A. Hamer, Dr. A. M. Curtis, W. L. Hawkins, and J. C. Campbell.

Miss Vivian Thompson and her grandmother Mrs. Gibbs, are now at their old home in Indianapolis, Ind., for permanent residence.

THE GREAT BOOK IS ABOUT READY.

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Mr. Editor please gave me space in your paper to notify the people that the book I have written will be ready for shipping to those who have sent for them now in about 5 or 10 days and I ask every person who has sent for the book to be ready for to take prompt action, for the book is calculated to employ over one hundred (100,000) thousand wide-awake men and women who are to help to gather under the leadership of 3,675 high standard leaders, a cash backing of (\$100,000,000) one hundred millions of dollars for the good of the Negro race of America. I also notify all men that no plan can be offered to the Negro race that will answer for the purpose or equal the plan I am now about to send out in this book, and they who get the book will have a private advantage over all other men and women of the Negro race, which will be worth a fortune to them who accept it, for it will give them power to become the first with the leaders in a plan by which a complete fortune and victory for the race is to be gained by them, and as the book only cost 25 cents, it seems to me that all sensible people ought to be glad to send and get a copy of it at once, at 712 N. 2nd street, Richmond, Va. in order that all may have equal showing in getting in the lead. I am,

JUSTUS J. EVANS, Author.

SHOWING UP SELFISH EDITORS.

N. B.: Mr. Editor—I wonder why the other Negro Editors will not copy and republish the notices I put in your paper which all of the people ought to know about? They have the people

paying them for their papers in order to get the news: why don't they let the people know that there is a Negro in the race who is offering to show them a way out? I want all men, and the very devil himself, and all his angels, to know that I am fully able to lead the Negro race to victory; the How, is in the 25 cents book I have written to the Negro Preachers. I am,

JUSTUS J. EVANS.

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